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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 7, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 2 totaled an estimated 17.2 billion ton-miles, 0.9 percent below the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 31 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 520.6 billion ton-miles, 0.8 percent lower than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 2 totaled 377,778, down 1.2 percent from last year, and 0.7 percent lower than the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were up 3.9 percent in the West, but down 9.1 percent in the East, and 1.2 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 13 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain showed a gain of 5,385 cars (16.2 percent) and metallic ores increased by 2,639 cars (20.3 percent). Thirteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 26 totaled 96,308 trailers and/or containers, 7.1 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 30 weeks of the year was 2,795,118 trailers and/or containers, up 9.7 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/2/86:

	Loadings in Week ended August 2, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,246	I	3,385	16.2	D	2,529	9.4
Other farm products	2,710	D	116	4.1	D	152	5.3
Metallic ores	15,668	I	2,639	20.3	D	2,012	11.4
Coal	112,846	D	9,232	7.6	I	683	0.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	15,206	I	1,413	10.2	I	1,033	7.3
Nonmetallic minerals	7,295	D	2,193	23.1	D	883	10.8
Grain mill products	10,425	I	197	1.9	I	151	1.5
Food and kindred products	11,203	D	162	1.4	I	558	5.2
Primary forest products	10,147	D	702	6.5	D	95	0.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,363	I	651	8.4	I	320	4.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,595	D	1,234	8.9	I	448	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	22,962	D	247	1.1	I	551	2.5
Petroleum products	4,960	I	234	5.0	I	63	1.3
Stone, clay and glass products	10,500	D	114	1.1	I	186	1.8
Coke	3,281	D	1,582	32.5	D	464	12.4
Metals and products	9,074	I	10	0.1	I	265	3.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,579	D	2,261	12.7	D	1,957	11.2
Waste and scrap materials	7,281	D	976	11.8	D	614	7.8
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	3,196	D	3,769	54.1	I	205	6.9
All other carloads	70,132	I	9,543	15.8	I	1,583	2.3
LCL traffic	109	D	54	33.1	I	8	7.9
Total Cars Loaded	377,778	D	4,570	1.2	D	2,652	0.7
Corresponding week of 1985	382,348						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (31 weeks)	11,510,956	11,594,696	D 0.7
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
30 Weeks ended July 26	503.3	507.6	D 0.8
Week ended August 2	17.2	17.4	D 0.9
31 weeks cumulative	520.6	525.0	D 0.8

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